

Fate of UNO student leader still unknown

BY VERONICA DAEHN
Staff writer

ASUN President Andy Schuerman said the fate of UNO Student President Jon Shradar should be up to the students.

Shradar, who also serves as the student regent at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, was ticketed Saturday night on suspicion of disorderly conduct at the first home Maverick football game.

Schuerman said while he does not know all the details, Shradar should be held responsible for his actions.

Shradar, 21, told the Daily Nebraskan on Thursday that he could not comment at the request of his attorney.

According to an Omaha police report, Shradar had "glazed and blood-shot eyes" Saturday night and smelled like alcohol. The report said Shradar told officers he had been drinking.

The incident happened around 8:40 p.m., the report said, as Shradar walked to the visitor section and began "displaying fighting gestures and attempting to incite the crowd... to violence."

According to the Omaha World-Herald, Shradar said he was bare chested and wearing only a kilt, the standard attire at football games for Theta Chi Fraternity members.

Once on the side of Northwest Missouri State University fans, Shradar went up into the bleachers "where a fight ensued," the report said.

A woman swung at the UNO student president and an off-duty Omaha

police officer then pulled Shradar away from the crowd onto the ground.

The report said Shradar was handcuffed "due to (his) violent and unpredictable nature at the time of the incident."

Meg Fricke, an Omaha Police Department officer, said Shradar told police he was the student body president and a friend of important people.

Shradar also said he was "doing nothing but cheering the team on," Fricke said.

No UNO administrators were available to comment Thursday on Shradar's future.

Schuerman said any sanctions imposed should be done by UNO students. No penalties should come from the NU Board of Regents or UNO administration, he said.

Marlene Beyke, ASUN director of development, said no ASUN executive member has ever been involved in a fight or alcohol-related incident like this.

Eric Marintzer, 1996-97 ASUN president, however, was arrested for drunk driving in November of his term.

Beyke said if a student body president or another executive member gets in trouble with the law, the case could go before ASUN's judicial board.

If that happens, she said, the member will most likely be removed from office, as ASUN bylaws mandate.

Schuerman said if anything like this ever happened at ASUN it would be handled "right here."

"If it would happen to me, I would be treated like any other student," he said.

Wesely approves plan to develop near park

BY JOSH KNAUB
Staff writer

City growth and environmental concerns will be balanced in a development near Wilderness Park, Mayor Don Wesely said Thursday.

"The health of our economy is very important for our city, but the health of our environment is a priority, too," Wesely said.

Wesely said the construction of Horizon Business Center near South 14th Street and Pine Lake Road will not increase the water level of any flood.

The development is on a flood plain.

Steve Henrichsen, a planner in the city information and planning department, said because a "no net rise" approach will be used, the development would not raise a flood's water level.

The approach is more strict than city and federal standards for flood plain construction. This means the developers will remove dirt from the site to compensate for the addition of buildings.

Wesely announced he had signed resolutions passed by the city council on Aug. 30 allowing construction to begin.

Plans for the development were unanimously approved by the Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission.

The business center will be a 529,000-square-foot complex of warehouses, offices and retail shops.

Wesely said he appreciated the involvement of citizens concerned about the development's environmental impact.

"They have raised some issues that need to be addressed, and I believe the developers have addressed those concerns," Wesely said.

He said the new construction would not have a negative impact on Wilderness Park.

The city currently owns a 17-acre buffer zone between the site and Wilderness Park. The zone is on the site's north side.

The area's west side is bordered by railroad tracks.

The site's developers have agreed to plant trees along the site's west edge to further shield Wilderness Park.

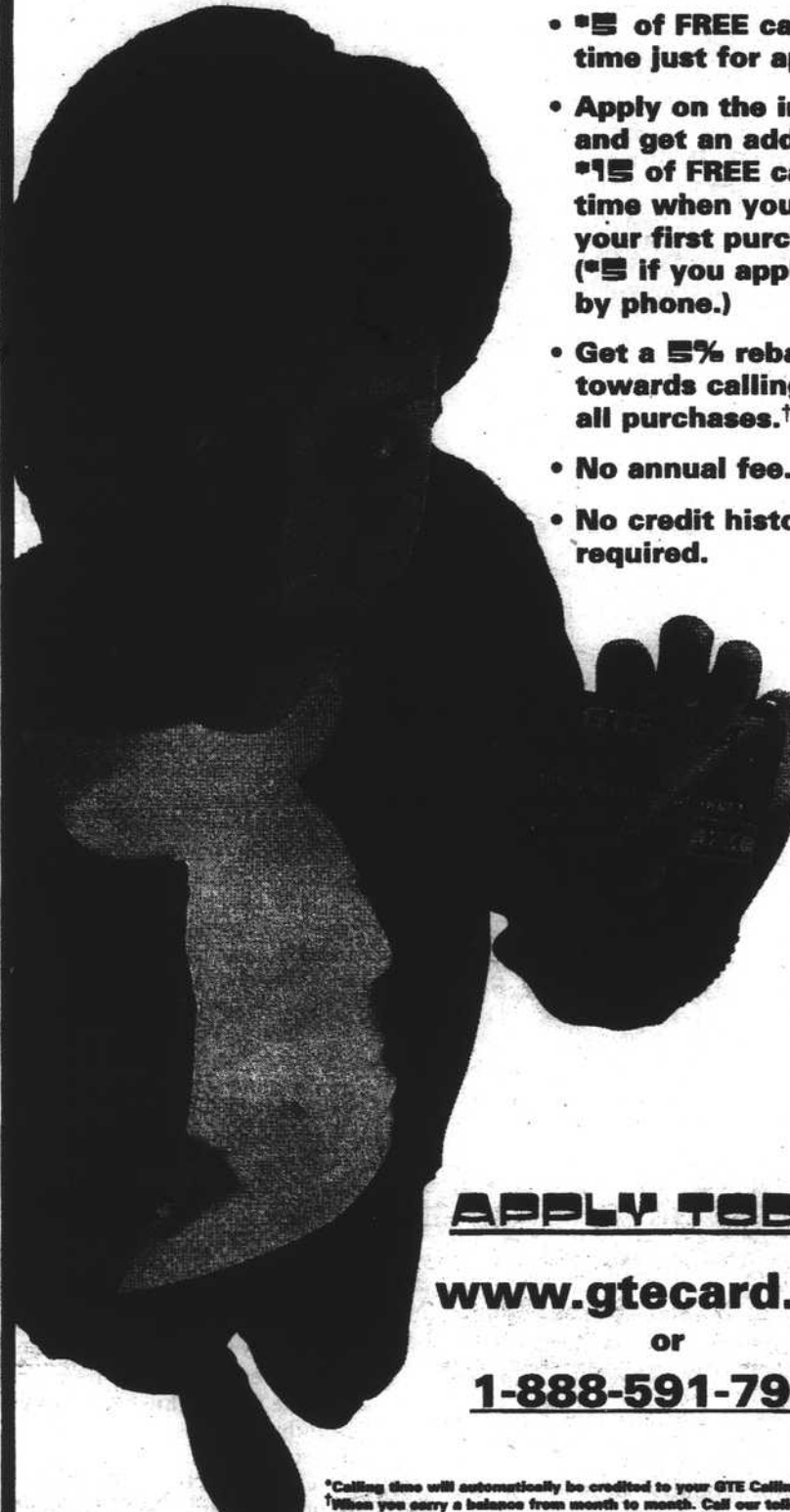
"By the time you add in the setback between the tracks and the buildings, there are more than two blocks between Wilderness Park and the closest building," Wesely said.

The construction will be just south of land reserved for Lincoln's new high school.

In a related action, Wesely said the city has applied for federal emergency management funds to purchase easements near Wilderness Park.

These easements would prevent development and preserve the Salt Creek flood plain.

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